

ROMAN RESEARCH PAPER

IN-TEXT CITATIONS

What separates a really good research paper from a weak paper is, not surprisingly, the research. A writer must provide the exact source for each piece of information used in the paper. This gives credit to the creators of the resources used to write the paper as well as credit to the writer of the paper for all their work doing the research. It allows the reader to find the bibliographic citation for the source that provided a specific piece of information.

When do I use an in-text citation?

- using a **direct quotation**
- **paraphrasing** or summarizing other's ideas

When do I NOT need documentation for what I am writing?

- writing a **personal opinion** or position arrived at independently (like a thesis)
- using **undisputed basic fact** (a cube has six sides, Ms. Scheld teaches math)

What do I do?

Every time you use a piece of information from your note cards, give the **author's last name** and the **page number**, if available, **inside parentheses**. Because of these parentheses, these are sometimes called parenthetical citations. If the author was not listed on a source, give the article title or webpage in quotation marks. This allows the reader to find the bibliographic information for that piece of information in the works cited list.

Example:

Emperor Titus made the Colosseum available to the Roman people in 80 CE after it was rapidly constructed (Hopkins).

Although many gladiators were from the bottom levels of society as criminals, enslaved people, or prisoners from war, being successful in the arena could bring wealth and fame. As a result, some chose to fight in the hopes of making it big ("Gladiators").

"Gladiators." *Roman Empire in the First Century*. PBS, 2006. Web. 14 July 2014.
<<http://www.pbs.org/empires/romans/empire/gladiators.html>>.

Hopkins, Keith. "The Colosseum: Emblem of Rome." *BBC*. BBC, 22 Mar. 2011. Web. 6 May 2015.
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/ancient/romans/colosseum_01.shtml>.

The Rules (for MLA):

1. The information in **in-text citations** must match the information listed first on the corresponding entry on the **works cited** page.
2. In-text citations usually appear at the **end of a sentence**, or as close as possible to the information it documents.
3. If the author's name is already in the sentence of the paper, do not repeat it in the citation.

Matyszak points out that one of the first signs that a Roman settlement had become permanent was the building of a bath house near the center of the development (124).

4. If citing the same page of the same source **more than once in a row**, put the citation at the end of the material taken from that source, as long as there is no information from another source in the mix. If citing from the same source twice in a row, but from a different page, include a complete in-text citation after the first piece of information and only include the page number for the second citation.
5. The in-text citations **preceded the punctuation mark** that concludes the sentence, clause, or phrase containing the borrowed information.
6. If a work has **two or more authors**, include the last name of each in the order that they appear on the title page; (Hart, Schafner, and Marx 35).

REMINDER: If there is no author listed for a source, use the title of the article or webpage instead of the author's last name. Put the webpage in quotes inside of the parentheses.

Example from Toya's paper:

Soldiers were also punished in certain situations. Bad soldiers may have had their pay docked (McCulloch). There were many crimes by military soldiers punishable by death. These were crimes such as treason, fleeing a battle, faking illness to avoid fighting, and wounding or killing fellow soldiers (Hamper). Romans inflicted death in many ways such as crucifixion, burying a person alive, throwing a criminal into a river, or beheading (Alchin). Soldiers may have also been split into groups of ten, nine of whom would be forced to kill the tenth.